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Argentina

Citrus

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Report Highlights:

Argentina received approval to export fresh citrus to the U.S. and started exports in late July 2000. Lemon exports to the U.S. were 5,100 tons in the period July to August 2000. Argentine fresh citrus output for 1999 - 2000 is estimated at 2.24 million tons, or 6 percent above last year's production. Production of fresh lemons increased 7 percent and orange production increased 4 percent, while production fell seven and two percent in grapefruit and tangerines.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Semi-Annual Report
Buenos Aires [AR1], AR

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SECTION I: SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

Production

Argentine fresh citrus production is estimated at 2.2 million tons for CY 2000, 13,000 tons above last year's output. The 7 percent increase in lemon output and the 4 percent increase in orange production has offset the reduction of seven and 2 percent in grapefruits and tangerines, respectively.

According to the Argentine Secretariat of Agriculture, 5,000 hectares of citrus were registered to export fresh citrus to the United States during 2000. Of that area, however, approximately half did not meet all requirements to export to the U.S. Only 2,438 hectares received final approval from SENASA and APHIS to export to the United States in June of this year. Out of this total, Tucuman province had 2,200 hectares approved to export lemons, Jujuy had only 38 hectares for oranges and Salta was approved to export fresh grapefruit from 200 hectares. Reportedly, the quality of the fruit exported was considered of excellent quality.

Industry sources expect that in 2001 citrus producers in the northwest part of the country will pay more attention to the fields that were registered to export to the United States, which should increase the area approved for citrus exports to the United States. Citrus exports to the United States are expected to increase, where exporters reportedly can receive better prices, while exports are expected to fall to Europe. Industry sources speculate that Japan will open its market to Argentine citrus in March 2001.

There are 5,000 citrus fruit farms, 400 packing plants and 21 processing plants in 16 provinces. The citrus

sector's labor demand reaches 100,000 jobs, not counting the personnel engaged in follow up work to citrus processing - distribution, freight, package manufacturers, etc.

With respect to grapefruit, production is stable. Production is not expected to increase in 2001 since international demand is less than it was in past years.

Private sources report that orange production may increase in 2001 in Misiones, Entre Rios and Buenos Aires provinces due to good weather conditions this year.

Consumption

In 1999 more than 44 percent of citrus production in Argentina was consumed fresh in the domestic market, and it is predicted that this will rise to 48 percent in 2000.

Trade

Fresh lemon shipments during January-August 2000, totaled 187,963 metric tons. The Netherlands in first place took 26 percent, Russia 14 percent, Italy 11 percent, Spain 9 percent, Greece 8 percent. Exports of lemons to the United States were 5,100 metric tons. Argentina received approval to export fresh citrus to the United States in June 2000.

During the first eight months of 2000, Argentine orange shipments reached 31,281 metric tons, of which the Netherlands accounted for 35 percent of total exports, followed by Belgium with 23 percent, Russia with 19 percent, Spain with 9 percent and Greece with 5 percent. The United States accounted for only 4 metric tons.

During the same period of 2000, grapefruit exports amounted to 17,506 metric tons. Belgium was Argentina's main buyer accounting for 39 percent of total shipments. The Netherlands took 34 percent and the United Kingdom 12 percent. Only 57 tons were shipped to the United States.

Tangerine exports during the first eight months of 2000 totaled 23,619 metric tons, of which the Netherlands took 39 percent, United Kingdom 24 percent and Canada 9 percent.

Nearly 69 percent of Argentine fresh citrus exports are loaded in Campana Port which is located at about 200 kilometers from Buenos Aires city; 20 percent is exported from the Port of Buenos Aires, 10 percent from the Port of San Pedro, (Prov. of Buenos Aires) located about 280 kilometers from Buenos Aires city and a tiny amount from San Antonio Oeste in the Province of Rio Negro located at about 1,800 kilometers from Buenos Aires city.

Policy

Citrus import duties and rebates

No. of nomenclature:
(updated October 2000)

Extra Zone	Merco- Sur	Statis- tical	Reba- te
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0805.10.001 Oranges: packed in boxes of up to 15 kilos or less	13	0	0.5	10.0
0805.10.002 Oranges packed in boxes from 15 kilos up to 20	13	0	0.5	8.1
0805.20.001 Tangerines packed in boxes of up to 15 kilos or less	13	0	0.5	10.0
0805.20.002 Tangerines packed in boxes from 15 kilos up to 20	13	0	0.5	8.1
0805.30.001 Lemon packed in boxes of up to 15 kilos or less	13	0	0.5	10.0
0805.30.002 Lemon packed in boxes from 15 kilos up to 20	13	0	0.5	8.1
0805.40.001 Grapefruit packed in boxes of up to 15 kilos or less	13	0	0.5	10.0
0805.40.002 Grapefruit packed in boxes from 15 kilos up to 20	13	0	0.5	8.1

Note:

Extra Zone: tariff applied to non-Mercosur Countries

Mercosur: tariff applied to imports from other Mercosur Countries (Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay)

Statistical: additional import charge

Rebate: tax refund for exports to non-Mercosur countries

SECTION II: STATISTICAL TABLES**Table 1: Lemons - PSD Table**

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Fresh Lemons				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Area Planted	41571	41571	43000	43000	43000	43000
Area Harvested	38500	38500	34000	34000	34000	34000
Bearing Trees	9728	9728	9728	9728	9728	9728
Non-Bearing Trees	3071	3071	5000	5000	5000	5000
TOTAL No. Of Trees	12799	12799	14728	14728	14728	14728
Production	1025	1025	1043	1043	1050	1050
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	1025	1025	1043	1043	1050	1050
Exports	157	157	199	199	180	200
Fresh Dom. Consumption	157	157	124	124	130	140
Processing	711	711	720	720	740	710
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1025	1025	1043	1043	1050	1050

Table 2: Lemons - Exports table

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Lemons		
Time period	C.Y	Units:	M.Tons
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	69,880	Netherlands	65,714
France	13,441	Russia	33,158
Spain	15,123	Spain	21,899
Russia	23,694	France	17,679
U.K.	9,599	Holland	14,003
Canada	5,396	Greece	10,186
Belgium	1,679	U.K.	10,005
Portugal	7,062	Canada	7,152
Yugoslavia	1,545	Belgium	6,941
British Territ.	1,200	British Territ.	3,407
Total for Others	148619		190144
Others not Listed	7,312		9,578
Grand Total	155931		199722

Table 3: Lemons - Imports Table

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Lemons		
Time period	C.Y.	Units:	M. Tons
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Uruguay	71	Spain	240
Chile	0	Cuba	3
Cuba	6		
Spain	86		
Total for Others	163		243
Others not Listed			
Grand Total	163		243

Table 4: Oranges - PSD Table

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Fresh Oranges				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Area Planted	56722	56722	56276	56276	56276	56276
Area Harvested	53860	53860	46576	46576	46576	46576
Bearing Trees	14273	14273	9698	9698	9698	9698
Non-Bearing Trees	2862	2862	12575	12575	12575	12575
TOTAL No. Of Trees	17135	17135	22273	22273	22273	22273
Production	921	921	660	660	663	685
Imports	6	6	5	5	5	5
TOTAL SUPPLY	927	927	665	665	668	690
Exports	93	93	75	75	73	65
Fresh Dom. Consumption	638	638	460	460	475	485
Processing	196	196	130	130	120	140
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	927	927	665	665	668	690

Table 5: Oranges - Exports Table

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Oranges		
Time period	C.Y.	Units:	M. Ton
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	45,450	Netherlands	25,264
Spain	13,083	Russia	16,959
Russia	10,994	Spain	13,667
France	3,900	U.K.	4,254
Canada	2,300	France	3,449
Polland	1,936	Belgium	2,796
Bolivia	800	Canada	1,611
British Territ.	836	Sweden	1,204
U.K.	13,159	Bolivia	898
Portugal	238	Greece	881
Total for Others	92696		70983
Others not Listed	51		3,868
Grand Total	92747		74851

Table 6: Orange - Imports Table

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Oranges		
Time period	C.Y.	Units:	M. Tons
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Spain	2,904	Spain	3,179
Mexico	1,179	Israel	1,131
Uruguay	275	Uruguay	402
Brazil	1	Mexico	352
Israel	1,362	Chile	37
		Brazil	4
Total for Others	5721		5105
Others not Listed	0		0
Grand Total	5721		5105

Table 7: Tangerines - PSD Table

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					

Commodity	Fresh Tangerines				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Area Planted	33613	33613	33257	33257	33257	33257
Area Harvested	31936	31936	25401	25401	25401	25401
Bearing Trees	12774	12774	8128	8128	8128	8128
Non-Bearing Trees	1681	1681	7856	7856	7856	7856
TOTAL No. Of Trees	14455	14455	15984	15984	15984	15984
Production	409	409	346	346	340	340
Imports	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL SUPPLY	410	410	347	347	341	341
Exports	38	38	31	31	30	25
Fresh Dom. Consumption	312	312	277	277	275	276
Processing	60	60	39	39	36	40
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	410	410	347	347	341	341

Table 8: Tangerines - Exports Table

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		

Commodity	Fresh Tangerines		
Time period	C.Y.	Units:	M. Tons
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	20,926	Netherlands	14,726
U.K.	6,831	U.K.	5,048
Canada	3,613	Canada	3,502
Polland	3,021	Russia	1,665
British Territ.	2,368	British Territ.	1,361
Russia	2,668	Singapore	863
Philippines	504	Philippines	763
S. Arabia	474	Belgium	575
Singapore	415	Polland	554
A. Emirates	321	S. Arabia	468
Total for Others	41141		29525
Others not Listed	18		1508
Grand Total	41159		31033

Table 9: Tangerines - Imports Table

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		

Commodity	Fresh Tangerines		
Time period	C.Y.	Units:	M. Tons
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Uruguay	268	Uruguay	359
Spain	136	Spain	194
Israel	93	Israel	88
Total for Others	497		641
Others not Listed			
Grand Total	497		641

Table 10: Grapefruits - PSD Table

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Fresh Grapefruit				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	

	Revised	1997	Preliminary	1998	Forecast	1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Area Planted	11702	11702	12679	12679	12679	12679
Area Harvested	10290	10290	10748	10748	10748	10748
Bearing Trees	1412	1412	2687	2687	2687	2687
Non-Bearing Trees	2058	2058	1931	1931	1931	1931
TOTAL No. Of Trees	3470	3470	4618	4618	4618	4618
Production	229	229	178	178	165	165
Imports	6	6	6	6	6	6
TOTAL SUPPLY	235	235	184	184	171	171
Exports	30	30	21	21	18	20
Fresh Dom. Consumption	167	167	119	119	113	113
Processing	38	38	44	44	40	38
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	235	235	184	184	171	171

Table 11: Grapefruits - Exports Table

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Grapefruit		

Time period	C.Y.	Units:	M. Tons
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	14,049	Belgium	7,904
France	7,265	France	7,340
U.K.	2,594	netherlands	2,859
Belgium	2,105	U.K.	2,174
Italy	791	Canada	454
Russia	674	Greece	231
Slovenia	76	Chile	153
Singapore	65	Russia	143
Polland	223	Italy	81
Spain	109	Bolivia	31
Total for Others	27951		21370
Others not Listed	184		21
Grand Total	28135		21391

Table 12: Grapefruits - Imports Table

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Grapefruit		
Time period	C.Y.	Units:	M. Tons

Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	40	U.S.	40
Others		Others	
Spain	823	Israel	3,674
Uruguay	1,089	Spain	1,025
Cuba	0	Uruguay	1,488
Mexico	85	Mexico	51
Israel	5,544	Chile	31
Chile	22		
Total for Others	7563		6269
Others not Listed	0		0
Grand Total	7603		6309